



Linking Girls to the Land

2004 Council Grant Summaries



From 2004-2005 fourteen Girl Scout councils and one international Girl Scout committee will work with federal and state natural resource agencies in order to complete a community and council service project or outdoor or environmental educational opportunity that promotes career development and the preservation of wildlife and natural resources.

	State	Council Name	Project Title	Project Summary	Number of Girl Scouts to be Served
1	CA	San Diego - Imperial	Mountain Adventure 2004	<p>Mountain Adventure 2004: 100 low-income girls will participate in a camping weekend in the Cleveland National Forest. Key program elements developed with USFS support include: field ecology, biological research, nature exploration, sensory awareness, career exploration, hiking, challenge course and educational science activities. Girls will learn conservation and environmental techniques to help them create an environmental community service project in their own urban community; girls will present their projects during a follow up event later in the year. Girls will also earn the "Outdoor in the City" badge. Girls will gain self-confidence, determination, decision-making, problem-solving and career development skills.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: U.S. Forest Service - Cleveland National Forest</p>	125
2	CA	San Geronio	Camp PINE CONE (Promoting Interest in Nature by Exploring and Camping in Nature's Environment)	<p>Camp PINE CONE: 100 at-risk, underserved, ethnically diverse girls will experience camping for the first time and learn basic outdoor skills, such as setting up a campsite and basic first aid. The key educational components, developed with BLM support, include Leave No Trace, Project Wild, and Project Learning Tree. BLM will host a career development session and recruit NPS and USFS staff as well as successful women from ethnically diverse backgrounds to serve as positive natural resource role models. Girls will gain respect for the outdoors, increase self-confidence, and build teamwork and critical-thinking skills. Girls ages 15-17 will gain leadership experience as they participate as Assistant Unit Leaders and Program Aides.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: Bureau of Land Management - California Desert District</p>	165

	State	Council Name	Project Title	Project Summary	Number of Girl Scouts to be Served
3	CA	Spanish Trails	Campfires, Tents, and So Much S'Mores	<p>Campfires, Tents, and So Much S'Mores: Girls from underserved Girl Scout areas will be introduced to the outdoors through weekly hands-on trainings in outdoor skills, ethics and respect for our natural resources. To test their skills and knowledge, girls will participate in a culminating overnight camping trip. Girls will effectively be able to communicate the need for preservation of our natural resources to others through the creation of a media plan involving their council and their community. BLM, USFS, and NPS volunteers will discuss career paths with the girls and be integral partners in evaluating the project.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agencies: Bureau of Land Management – California Desert District, U.S. Forest Service – Cleveland national Forest, National Park Service</p>	350
4	CT	Connecticut Trails	Pondering Ponds with Eco-Techs II	<p>Pondering Ponds: As an expansion to a Linking Girls to the Land project, girls will learn about pond life, water cycles, non-point pollution and their solutions, and its effect on ground water by exploring a pond and lake ecosystem in a rural, underserved part of their council. Girls will use scientific methods and global positioning technology to map and compass the pond and lake. Girls will be trained as environmental program facilitators called Eco-Techs. With support from CT DEP and the Regional Water Authority, a nature center will be established to host a year-round pond exploration and monitoring program and a career day event. Eco-Techs will take a leadership role in developing and facilitating the nature center and day camp programs focusing on conservation, wildlife and ecosystems for younger Girl Scouts, while earning the Pondering Ponds patch.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection – Kellogg Environmental Center and Goodwin Conservation Center</p>	1,035
5	CT	Southwestern CT	Rocky Craig Interactive Nature Trail	<p>Rocky Craig Interactive Nature Trail: Participants will develop a self-guided, interpretive nature trail with hands-on discovery stations focusing on ecology and non-point source pollution and linked to Girl Scout earned-age level awards and the Water Drop Patch. CT DEP, NRCS and local collaborative partners will provide geological, hydrological, curriculum development expertise. Girls and adults will be trained to teach environmental programs. Participants will develop at least three programs-in-a-box to be used by adult volunteers to teach girls about non-point source pollution and resource protection (such as water quality and watersheds, trees, habitats, etc.). Program materials will also be used at a Career Night with the collaborating agencies. The project will serve as a model for three other Outdoor Program Centers in their council.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agencies: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection</p>	350

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6	LA	Bayou	Wetlands Adventures	<p>Wetlands Adventures: Girls will work with federal natural resource professionals and university advisors to scientifically study Louisiana's disappearing wetlands, develop wildlife conservation projects and explore environmental science related careers. Girls will develop projects that meet the criteria in order to earn their Girl Scout Silver and Gold Awards. Projects may include: developing learning models for elementary aged children at camp; assisting in the design and planting of an observation area surrounding the nature station and boardwalk observation trail to be constructed in 2004; conducting water and soil studies of camp; identifying indigenous flora and fauna; and conducting camp enhancement days with younger girls.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USGS National Wetlands Research Center</p>	34
7	MI	Peninsula Waters	Linking Girls to the Land in Michigan's Upper Peninsula	<p>Linking Girls to the Land in Michigan's Upper Peninsula: In partnership with three federal and one local agency, girls will learn outdoor skills from women role models that will help them explore wildlife conservation and natural resource issues on unique federal properties. They will learn the principles of Leave No Trace, cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, backcountry winter camping skills, hiking and orienteering skills, canoeing, kayaking, and fishing. This project encourages girls to become more involved in natural resource issues and to consider a career in wildlife conservation as an option. Older girls will be trained as Program Aides for future programs.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agencies: U.S. Forest Service – Hiawatha national Forest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Seney National Wildlife Refuge, National Park Service – Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore</p>	150
8	MT	Big Sky	Wildlife Stewardship Training	<p>Wildlife Stewardship Training: Girls, including members from Native American reservations, will participate in two weekend training sessions at Girl Scout camps in the Big Sky and Treasure Trails councils in the Spring/Summer of 2004. The training will cover topics such as encounters with wildlife, backcountry and campground camping, recognizing bear signs, storing food, and guidelines for viewing and photographing wildlife. Environmental career opportunities will also be discussed. Using the "each one teach one" model, participating Girl Scouts would agree to train at least 10 members of their home community in Wildlife Stewardship.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agencies: Center for Wildlife Information, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service</p>	335

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9	NJ	Morris Area	Seed Ball Dispersal Project	<p>Seed Ball Dispersal Project: Girls will identify between 30-50 sites affected by surface water runoff, pollutants and other environmental factors or neglect, and re-seed the sites with native plants utilizing the seed ball dispersal technique. The project will improve site conditions, help prevent erosion, and contribute to water resource protection in Morris County. Girls will prepare the sites, make and disburse terra cotta seed balls to re-introduce native plants to the area. Girls will employ scientific techniques to observe, measure, record and photograph data on at least three occasions. Federal and local agency professionals will provide conservation and water quality expertise and technical support.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: National Park Service - Morristown National Historical Park</p>	1,500
10	NJ	Rolling Hills	NJ Naturalist Interpretive Program	<p>NJ Naturalist Interpretive Program: Interpretive natural resources programs, focusing on watershed protection, will be developed on Girl Scout and state park property for girls ages 6-10 and the public. Girls 11-17 will gain career experience as they develop public relations materials about the project and visual aids for the curricula. Special effort will be made to serve girls from ethnic backgrounds or at risk. Curricula developed, including program boxes created for natural interpretation, will be shared with other councils and available for widespread circulation.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection - Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park</p>	140
11	OH	Great Trail	Ecology Exposition	<p>Ecology Exposition: Girls will help plan an event designed to provide awareness and hands-on activities about wildlife conservation, natural resources, wetlands, and the environment, with a specific focus on watershed protection and restoration. Girls from urban, suburban and rural schools will participate in hands-on learning, investigate careers and partnership projects with agency representatives that could lead to Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, and do community service through activities that benefit the local environment. The project will link Girl Scouts to potential local projects partnered with coordinating parties designed to support the Watershed Action Plan.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Division of Forestry</p>	300

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12	OH	Heart of Ohio	Project FUN (Families Understanding Nature)	<p>Project FUN: Girl Scout Camp Falls Run will be enhanced by utilizing the site's natural setting and developing a progressive wildlife observation plan. The project will utilize federal agency expertise to include: mitigating a 50' by 350' utility right-of-way clear-cut through the forest; designing and constructing a wildlife observation deck; inviting families and troops to attend the first FUN Day program; and creating resources for environmental studies at Camp Falls Run. Girls 11-14 will learn about native plants, trail design and development, erosion prevention, trail accessibility and aesthetics, planting techniques for trees and herbaceous plants, native wildlife, and the interrelationships within the ecosystem.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service</p>	300
13	SD	Nyoda	Prairie Ecosystem	<p>Prairie Ecosystem: Permanent day camps will be developed on USFWS land to give girls the opportunity to work on the prairie land, learn about field ecology, biological studies, interpretation of the prairie wetland region, become an ambassador for the USFWS, and to explore careers. Programs will be tailored to meet badge requirements. Transportation will also be offered to ensure participation of girls from 4 Native American reservations.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Huron Wetland Management District</p>	3,000
14	WI	Black Hawk	Echoes of Prairie	<p>Echoes of Prairie: Girls will help re-establish 17 acres of new prairie on camp property to be used as an environmental education tool to teach both Girl Scouts and adult volunteers about ecosystem management, science careers and stewardship ethics. This large restoration will provide much needed habitat for grassland birds and other wildlife to repopulate. It will also add additional acreage to a tall grass prairie corridor as a joint venture with the USFWS and neighboring land owners. This process will be applied to the council's three other camp properties and the council service center, as well as serving as a model for other councils.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Wisconsin Private Lands Office</p>	900

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15	Micro-nesia	Kosrae	Environmental Clean-Up Coconut Project	<p>Environmental Clean-Up: Girls will clean up and restore the foreshores of the eastern and southern sides of Kosrae in an effort to offer a cleaner coastal environment for fish breeding and cleaner beaches and easier access for recreation purposes. Clean-up days will be held in two month intervals. Follow-up and inspections of previous areas cleaned will take place every three months.</p> <p>Coconut Project: Girls will learn the arts of craft making, soap making, cosmetics and essential oils using many parts of the coconut plant. This entrepreneurial project will provide girls job experience and income that will enable Kosrae to sustain this project and benefit future projects, while at the same time plant and conserve an important natural resource.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: Kosrae Island Resource Management Authority</p>	254
				TOTAL NUMBER OF GIRL SCOUTS TO BE SERVED	8,938